REMARKS

This preliminary amendment amends the specification to indicate that the present invention was made in part with U.S. Government support.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested an action on the merits be earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Gregory J. Maier

Attorney of Record

Registration No. 25,599

David A. Bilodeau

Registration No. 42,325

22850

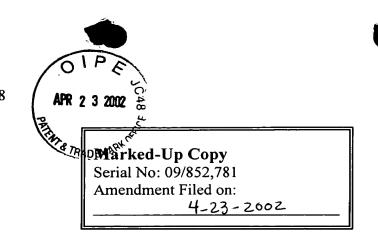
(703) 413-3000

Fax #: (703)413-2220

DAB/law

I:\atty\DAB\208485\208485US.prel.am.wpd

208485US-8



IN THE SPECIFICATION

RECEIVED

Please insert the following paragraph between lines 3 and 4:

APR 2 4 2002

--STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH Center 2100

The present invention was made in part with U.S. Government support as a subcontractor with Lawrence Livermore National Lab (LLNL) under contract to DOE. The LLNL contract number is "Prime Contract No. W-7405 ENG 48" and the subcontractor contract number is B347785. The U.S. Government has certain rights in the invention.--